

REMARKS

After entry of the above amendments, the claims pending in the subject application are 1-9, 11, 13-14, 16-39, 41, 43-44, and 46-66. Reconsideration of this application based on the Amendments and Remarks presented herein is respectfully requested.

It is acknowledged that claims 6-7, 9-11, 13-14, 21-23, 26, and 29 were objected to as being dependent upon a rejected base claim, but they would be allowable if rewritten in independent form.

Applicants request rejoinder of claims 38-39, 41, 43-44, and 46-66 subject to the Rejoinder provisions of MPEP 821.04. Claim 1 is directed to a product, and claims 38-39, 41, 43-44, and 46-66 are directed to process claims that depend from and contain the subject matter of the product claim.

35 U.S.C. §102 REJECTIONS

Claims 1-5, 8, 12, 15-20, 24-25, 27-28, and 30-37 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §102(e) as being anticipated by United States Patent No. 6,423,805 to Bacho et al.

Claim 1 has been amended to include the ethylenically unsaturated monomer containing sulfonic acid subject matter from allowable claim 10. With the inclusion of the subject matter from allowable claim 10, the rejection is rendered moot. Also, claims 10, 12, 15, 18, 40, 42, 45, and 48 were canceled or amended because the ethylenically unsaturated monomer containing sulfonic acid was optional in these claims. It is respectfully submitted that claims 1-5, 8, 12, 15-20, 24-25, 27-28, and 30-37 are not anticipated by United States Patent No. 6,423,805 to Bacho et al.

In view of the amendments and remarks contained above, Applicants respectfully request reconsideration of the application, withdrawal of the 35 USC §102 rejections, and request that a Formal Notice of Allowance be issued for claims 1-9, 11, 13-14, 16-39, 41, 43-44, and 46-66. Should the Examiner have any questions about the above remarks, the undersigned attorney would welcome a telephone call.

Respectfully submitted,

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